

Whalesong

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University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau Campus

October 10, 1997

Tuxedo Junction sails to financial goal

University Nets \$10,000 for Scholarship Fund

by Heather Montez
Whalesong Reporter

Tuxedo Junction 1997 was a huge success. Five hundred and fifty-two people attended the biennial scholarship event on Oct. 4 and although the event didn't quite sail away with the money raised from the 1995 record-breaking Tuxedo Junction, it met the \$10,000 goal that was set.

This year's event was a little bit different than previous years. Occurring in several locations, the event transported each guest to his or her own cruise experience aboard the USS Tuxedo Junction.

"We were tired of the same old format and wanted to generate some new excitement," said Cruise Director Tish Griffin, who also wears the hat of UAS Assistant Director of Student Services.

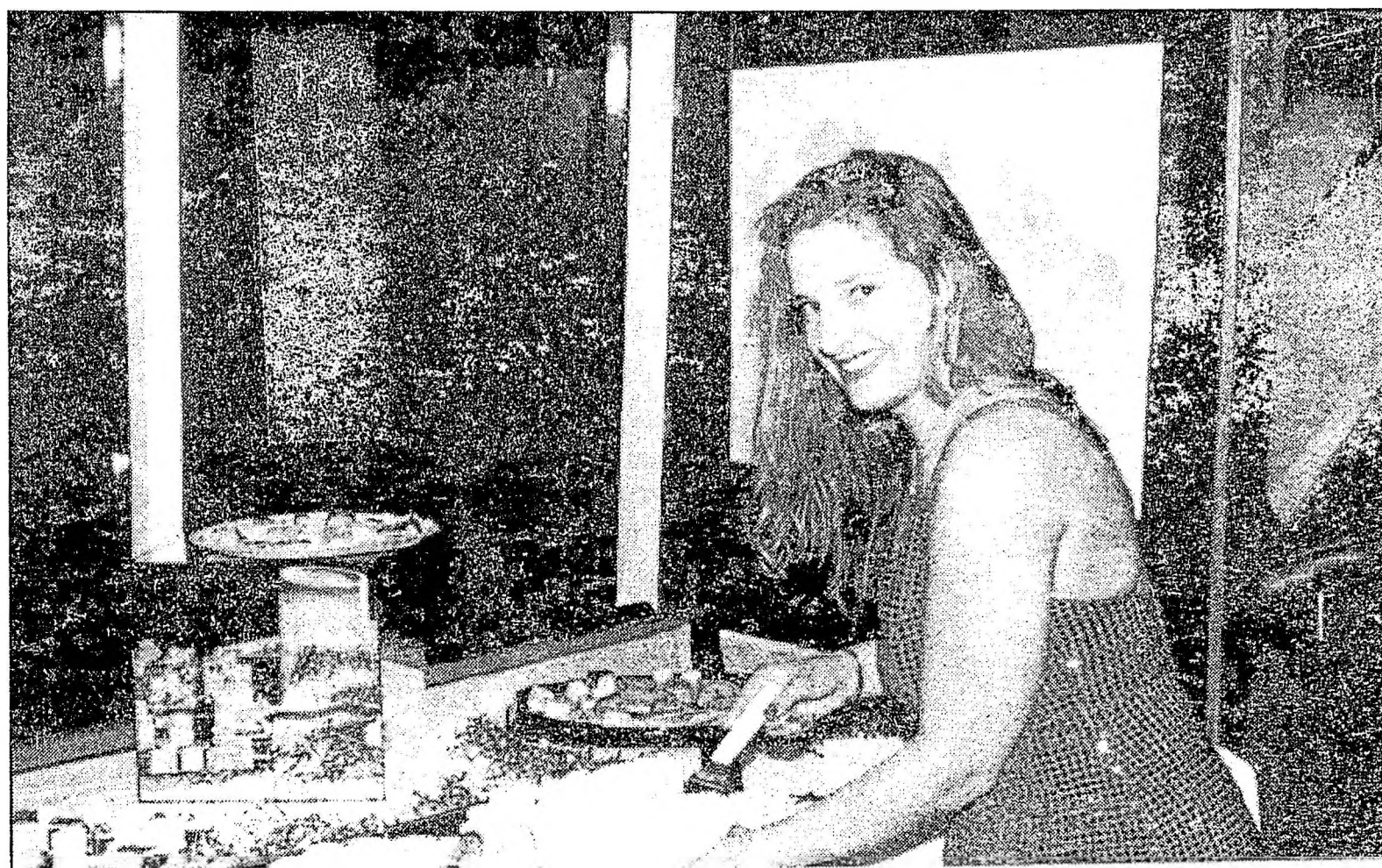
The Bon Voyage party started at 8 p.m. at the bottom of the tram where Louie Rodgers and his karaoke machine got the party rolling. From there, guests were able to stroll to three other locations. At the top of the tram people danced to the sounds of Mel Flood's Big Band and enjoyed a fabulous feast of hors d'oeuvres. Taku Smokeries, near the lower tram area, partied down with No One Famous, a local rock'n'roll band.

"This was definitely the place to be later in the evening. The place was packed and everyone was having such a great time that no one wanted to leave when the party was over," said Griffin, "I think everyone could have gone for at least another hour."

More great food along with casino gambling and other activities were offered at Taku Smokeries throughout the night. The catamaran, St. Gregory, could be boarded on the wharf and took passengers on 45-minute cruises around the channel throughout the evening.

"This was a great place to have some nice quiet time, to get away, talk to friends and relax," said Griffin. On the boat guests were able to choose from an array of great desserts and listen to jazz by The Headhunters.

Paul Hansen, a business student at UAS, won the trip for two on Holland America Cruises. Everyone who bought



UAS Student President Rosie Gilbert is dressed to the nines while sampling some of the fine cuisine during this year's Tuxedo Junction.

a ticket was automatically entered for this drawing. The trip for two to Mexico on Alaska Airlines, another drawing offered for \$5 a ticket, was won by former student Matt LeGassick.

"It was nice to see the students getting the big prizes," said Griffin.

The top of the tram was set up as a ship's store where a silent auction ran throughout the evening. Guests were able to place their bids on an array of items donated by business throughout the state. The most popular item, donated by BP Exploration, was a trip for two to Prudhoe Bay, which includes a guided tour of the pipeline. Alice Slattery-Tersteeg, an art professor at UAS, was the top bidder. Other items included jewelry from Zales, hot tub rentals from The Alaskan Hotel, items from the Harley

Davidson store, flowers, prints and much more.

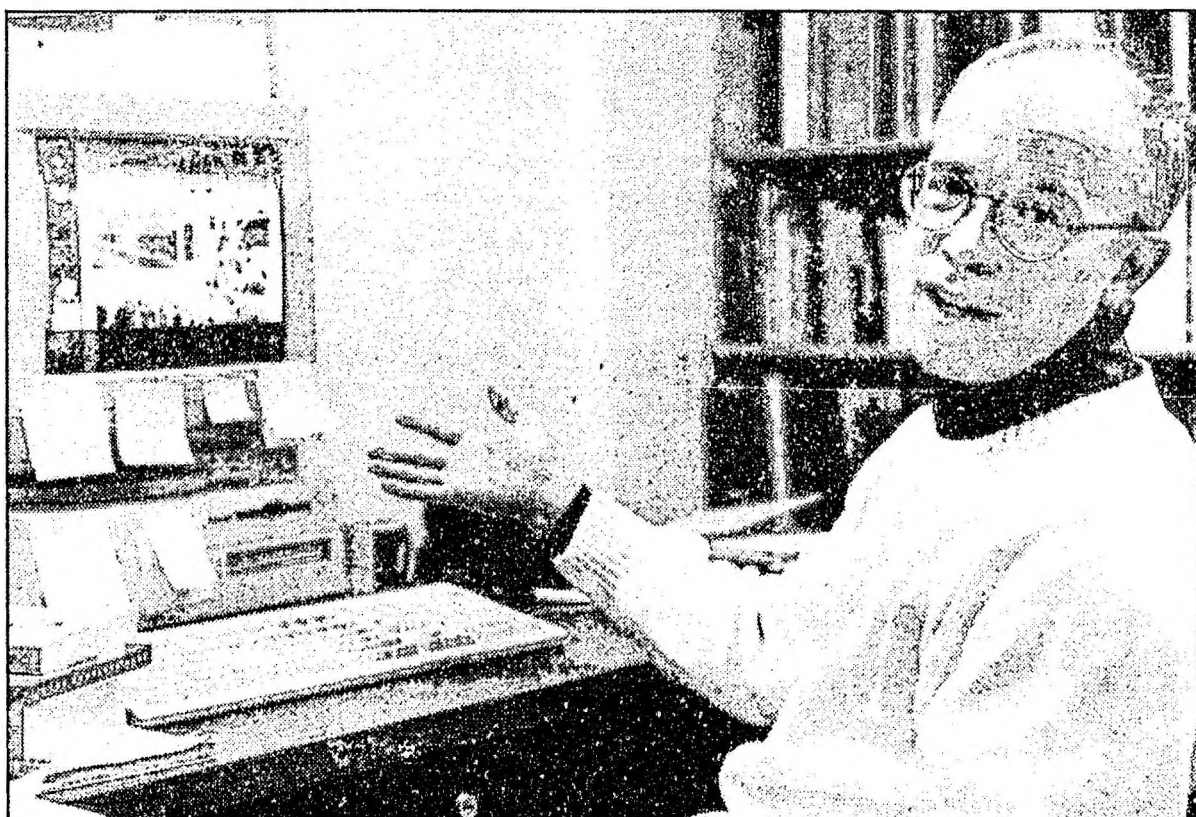
Griffin said that the event was an amazing success and she said she will definitely consider doing another one like it.

"The food was great, the entertainment was great, we made our money, more students than ever attended and I have never gotten so many calls from people expressing their gratitude and telling me how much fun they had. The more elaborate catering and multiple entertainment drove the cost up a little but I think it was worth it," she said.

Griffin said she is already thinking about 1999 and how they can top this year's success. "We're thinking about doing something for the millennium, maybe on New Year's Eve."

'I'M HERE TO BE MR. EUROPE AND THE WORLD'

History professor finds his niche in Juneau



Robin Walz demonstrates a CD-ROM version of Art Spiegelman's graphic novel "Maus" featured in Walz's course which focuses on the Nazi's persecution of the Jewish people.

by Heather Montez
Whalesong Reporter

After four years of searching for the right teaching job, History Professor Robin Walz has found his niche in Juneau. Walz spent time interviewing and traveling to numerous places before he decided on UAS, mainly because he was "most impressed with our little city," he said.

"There was no doubt that from the time the plane was coming into Juneau, I was the most excited here," Walz said.

But his attraction wasn't only to the beautiful environment and location of Juneau, the deciding factor that moved him to bring his family and stay was the university itself.

He said, "it really matters to me that whoever wants to can come here to Juneau and go to school. I wanted to get a job at a public university because I look back on my own background and what made it possible for me to go on and earn a graduate degree and a Ph.D. was a public university."

Walz was also attracted to the small classes, giving him better access to the students and the students to him. After receiving his Ph.D. from

UC-Davis in 1994 he became a visiting professor for three years and taught at both Pomona College and UC-Davis. At these larger universities, teaching entry-level classes, such as the Western Civilization series he is now teaching here could mean up to 150 students in an auditorium.

Professor Walz's own educational focus was on cultural and intellectual history and he will be giving us his expertise in those areas. Here at the university, his focus in the History Department will be world history.

"Since Pat Fitzgerald has his plate full with American history, I am here to be Mr. Europe and the World," he said.

This semester along with the Western Civilization courses, Walz is teaching an upper division course titled "Seminar: The Holocaust."

"I love teaching seminar style—it's saying that all of us are smarter than one of us. I get very excited, being a teacher who is a facilitator. Finding out what people are finding out. What is of interest to them and building discussions around that. There's lots to work on, it's a very exciting way of teaching."

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A Call to Action: Student Involvement Breeds Positive Changes

by Alexis Ross Miller
Whalesong Editor

It is always difficult to begin a new semester, a new chapter in your life, without thinking about the implications it has on others, whether it be family or friends or even someone you don't know yet. I know this semester in my new post as the Whalesong Editor, that much of what I write may impact (at least I hope so) my fellow students, as well as university administrators and staff, and it certainly will reflect my own opinions.

I believe the role of a student newspaper and the role of an editor should be to relay the relevant news to its audience, which includes students, staff and faculty. I also believe that as an editor I should challenge people, especially students, to think about their own place in the world. One person can make an impact in changing the system, even if it is in a small way. And I hope to challenge students to become involved in the process called university life and by that I mean mainly the political process, but also the student groups and activities that make up the unique environment of a university.

I sit down to write this editorial the day after the Juneau Assembly elections and am appalled at the very low voter turn-out. Only 28.6 percent of Juneau's eligible voting population took the time to vote on Tuesday. According to Deputy City Clerk Evelyn Stott, this was the lowest voter response in the past four years. Although the number of registered voters in Juneau is unusually high at 23,700, this election turn-out was unusually low. Less than 7,000 people cast their votes. Factor into that equation that there are about 2,200-2,300 students registered this fall, which includes both part-time and full-time students.

I don't know about you, but I voted late Tuesday night. Granted, I was busy with my five classes and putting out this first issue of the paper, but I took the time to dash over to the Chapel by the Lake, which isn't my normal voting site, and cast my ballot before the polls closed at 8 p.m. I can tell you that not all of my candidates won, but that doesn't matter. I voted—I think my vote is a small way of using my voice and my ability to make concrete changes

in city government—and that I believe is the most important thing.

Robert Kennedy said it best when speaking in South Africa to students: "Let no one be discouraged by the belief there is nothing one man or woman can do against the enormous array of the world's ills—against misery and ignorance, injustice and violence... Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation."

One person can make an impact in changing the system, even if it is in a small way.

Action works in even small doses, whether you vote, write a Letter to the Editor or have the courage to speak out against injustice, no matter what the cost to your personal or professional life. But for many people, that is too large a piece of the apple to bite off and they would rather start small. I think students have the opportunity to start small right here at UAS. You can become involved with Student Government or any of the many student groups which have formed or are now forming on campus.

The UAS Student Conservation Group's primary tasks are to promote an awareness about conservation issues from hands-on experience with a stream monitoring project on Douglas Island's Peterson Creek to political activism and discussion forums about Juneau's road access, the university lands bill and other environmental issues. If you want more information about this group you may call the student contact, Anissa Berry-Frank, at 789-6360.

Another student group, Global Connections, has been hosting films about foreign locales this semester on Friday evenings. Global Connections number one concern is to promote international and cultural awareness among students, to expand your horizons literally and figuratively. They also want to make students aware of opportunities to study, work and live abroad. The student representative for this group, Amelia Jenkins, spent last year in Ireland and Czechoslovakia. She can be reached at the University Library, where she works part-time, at 465-6466.

I wish I had the space to write about all the groups that have formed on campus, but if you are interested in learning more about these two groups or others not mentioned here please contact Student Government or the Student Activities Office in the Mourant Building.

There is no time like today to get involved and to speak out about a cause or issue. To return to my earlier quote from Robert Kennedy and his ending remarks to the South African students, "It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man or woman stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he/she sends a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

I'd like also to ask for student and staff involvement in this paper, after all it is a university student newspaper, which means you, not just me. I'd like to see Letters to the Editor and My Turn columns from students and staff on topics related to the university, whether it be tuition increases, budget cuts, university lands legislation or something closer to home like additional library and computer center hours.

You can contact the Whalesong at 465-6434 or e-mail our staff at JYWHALE@acad1.alaska.edu or even check out our web page at <http://www.jun.alaska.edu/whalesong> (please note that the paper won't be on the web site until the Monday following publication). We look forward to hearing from you.

Wanted: Letters to the Editor

Bring them to the Whalesong Office
Mourant Rm. 109. Must list phone
number for verification of authorship.

Please, no more than 250 words per letter.

Letters to the Editor

Young Democrat Chastises Republicans for UA Budget Cuts

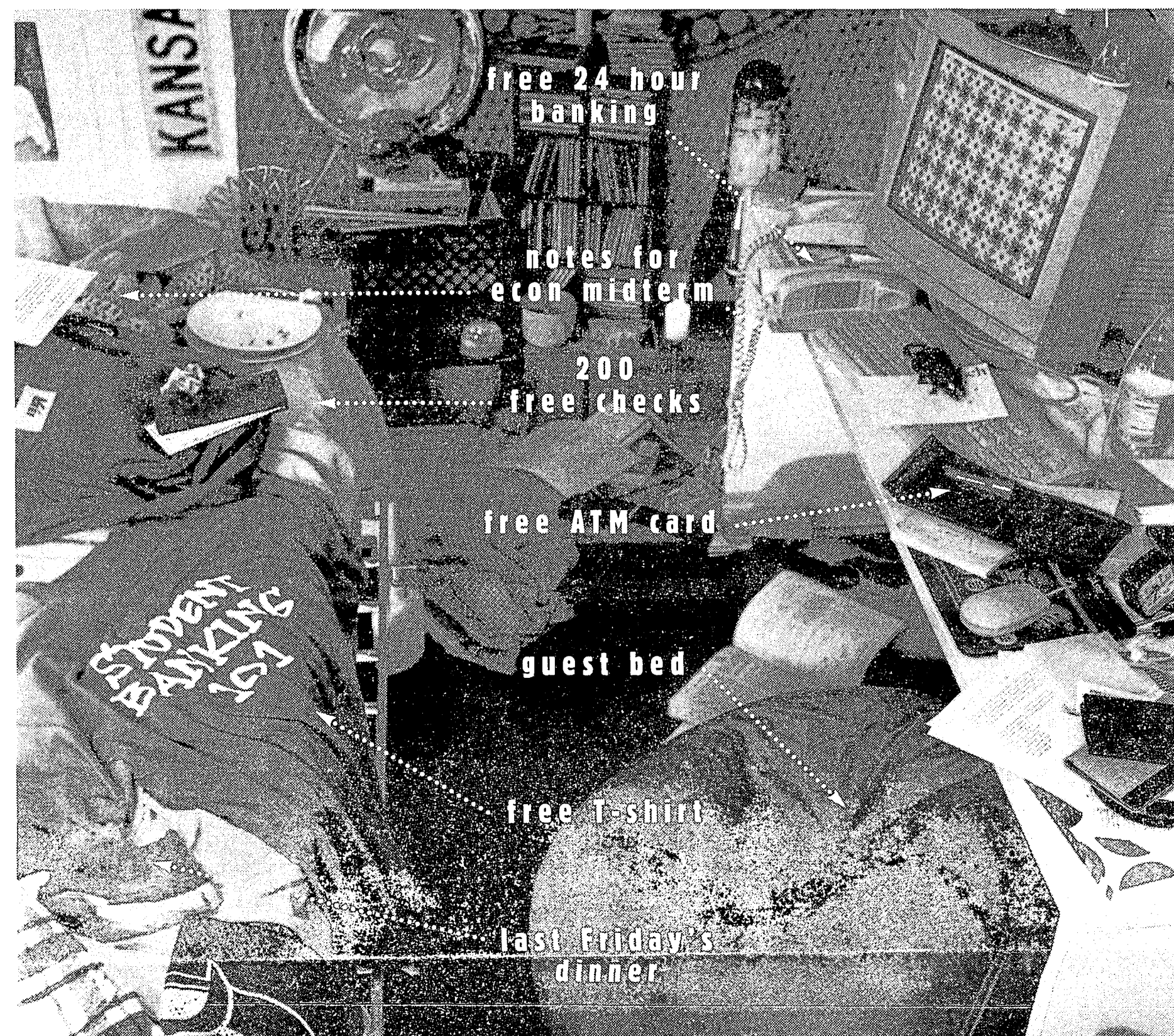
This summer, while our University System was still reeling from the impact of Republican legislative budget cuts to the University of Alaska, and our Republican state legislators vacationed, Democrats in Washington, D.C. were busy fighting for America's college students.

The historic balanced budget compromise which passed this summer contained something for both parties. Republicans in Congress fought for and won tax cuts for the rich. President Bill Clinton and Democrats in Congress fought for and won tax cuts for college students.

Thanks to Democrats, the balanced budget bill contained a new tax credit of \$1,500 for the first two years of school. After that comes a 20% tax credit on up to \$5,000 in tuition, and an annual write-off of up to \$2,500 for the first four years of student loan interest payments. (Source: Newsweek Aug. 11, 1997).

So register to vote and next election remember that not every politician fails to support higher education. Democrats in Juneau and Washington, D.C. are fighting for our nation's future: its students.

Demian M. Dennis
Alaska Young Democrats



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Walz...

continued from page 1

The seminar style focuses on the knowledge gained from the students. Walz is there to mediate and encourage discussion but he is not up front giving lectures. Some students prefer the regular lecture type format because they feel they are not learning what they had hoped from student discussions, but most are enjoying the sometimes intense discussions and the individual insights each student has to offer.

"I enjoy it because it's very interactive," said senior Amelia Jenkins, "I really like the subject information."

"I would definitely take another seminar class like this," said Education major Shea Rich.

"Sometimes it's hard to get in what you want to say, but generally I like the class. I really like the information," said Jason Nelson, a Social Science major.

It may seem hard to imagine why students would want to spend a full semester on one historical topic like the Holocaust. "Unlike a lot of topics in history that seem kind of arcane, old, in the past, and you spend a fair amount of time thinking why would we possibly still be interested in this today. The Holocaust is not like that," he said, "The Holocaust is an event that continues to have a profound influence and meaning to lives of a great number of people. The opening of the Holocaust Museum in Washington DC in 1993, the movie 'Schindler's List,' and a famous Holocaust author, Elie Wiesel, winning

the Nobel Prize, these things that have happened in recent years have brought the Holocaust into the forefront in thoughts and discussion."

Next semester he will be offering another seminar course titled "Private Lives and Public Affairs." This will be a three-hour evening class covering events from the Renaissance to the 20th century. Famous scandalous cases of insanity, crimes of passion and the alternative thinker will be discussed.

These conflicts, problems and trials involving common ordinary people will provide a way of looking into society during that part of history.

After this year, Walz will only be offering one seminar class a year, in the fall. Next fall, he will teach "The History of Human

Rights." This coincides with the 50th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights at the founding of the United Nations.

European Intellectual History, The African Diaspora and a Russian history course will be on the roster for the spring as regular upper division courses. History of Popular Culture, Society in the Sexes and Disorienting Encounters, which will highlight major clashes between civilizations, are some of the additional upcoming seminar classes Walz will teach.

Walz is married with two children and they have settled into Juneau for the duration.

This week they made their final commitment to staying here in Juneau when the entire family all went out and purchased their own Juneau-style tennis shoes, which Walz was sporting for the interview.

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Whalesong

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The University of Alaska Southeast student newspaper, *The Whalesong*, is a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 1500 copies per issue. The *Whalesong's* primary audience is UAS students, although its broader audience includes faculty, staff, and community members. *Whalesong* will strive to inform and entertain its readers, analyze and provide commentary on the news, and serve as a public forum for the free exchange of ideas. The staff of the *Whalesong* values freedom of expression and encourages reader response.

The *Whalesong* editorial staff assumes no responsibility for the content of material written by non-staff members. The views and opinions contained in this paper in no way represent the University of Alaska and reflect only those of the author(s). The editorial staff is solely responsible for content.

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Viewpoint

UAA Student Questions Politicians' Commitment to Education

Dear Editor,

These politicians are something else, aren't they? They'll tell you they're saving your life, while they strangle you to death.

Letters in the Sept. 16 Northern Light (University of Alaska-Anchorage student newspaper) from Sens. Loren Leman and Dave Donley proclaiming the Republican majority's "strong commitment to the University of Alaska" and higher education, while soft-pedaling the impacts of their budget cuts, are laughable. Thanks to the Legislature's budget cuts and war on the UA bureaucracy, the already limited higher education opportunities in Alaska are diminishing, and access to schools Outside is being impaired.

To support their alleged "commitment" Leman points out that the state-wide university general fund budget for FY98 declined by only two percent (why cut it at all?) from FY97, that the "Republicans are concerned that students get value for education dollars," and that "tuition and fees . . . will increase by two percent." However, he conveniently chooses to ignore that the university budget allocations from Republican-controlled legislatures have declined for at least four years (I didn't research any further back). And what of the increased university costs due to inflation, employee wage increases, etc? I know my tuition and fees have increased a LOT more than two percent

in the last four years here at UAA. I've had some great classes taught by excellent instructors, but as my cost as a student has gone up, classes have been cut, the library continues to decline, science lab equipment has deteriorated, etc., etc., etc. So I guess I'll get "value for my dollars" by paying a lot more of them, and then only if I hang around long enough?

This guy wants to be governor. Has he got your vote? Ever hear of a credibility gap?

Donley is appalled that "only 47 percent of the Alaska WAMI Medical Education Program (WAMI stands for the states involved in the program Washington, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho) students actually return to Alaska." How many Alaskan medical students will return WITHOUT the WAMI program? Certainly, the program's expensive. Medical school is expensive. Perhaps some minor revisions in the program may be appropriate, but elimination of the WAMI program will deny medical school access to many talented Alaskan students. I'd personally much rather spend public dollars to send a few Alaskans to medical school than to send any legis-

lators on a junket to Russia.

For many years, through the WICHE (Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education) Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP), the state of Alaska provided invaluable aid to Alaska students who wanted careers

... the Republican majority's "strong commitment to the University of Alaska" and higher education, while soft-pedaling the impacts of their budget cuts, are laughable.

there an incentive to return to Alaska in there somewhere?

Under the current Republican-led Legislature, higher education opportunities in Alaska are in decline, and the state won't help neutralize the severe non-resident expenses and admission competition that Alaskans are left to face at schools Outside. Alaska needs expanding educational opportunities, not diminishing ones. It's important to let these politicians know they're on the wrong track—and if they won't listen, VOTE THEM OUT. Write to the Governor and your legislators and advise them of your views. Addressees are:

Gov. Tony Knowles
State of Alaska
P.O. Box 110001
Juneau, AK 99811-0001

Any/All State Legislators
(Common Address)
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99811-1182

Dave Schrader
UAA Biology student

(Editor's Note: This letter was originally printed in the UAA student newspaper, The Northern Light, on Sept. 23. The author has given his permission to the Whalesong to reprint his letter.)

Chancellors push UA agenda

by Melissa Eichholz
UAA Northern Light News Editor

FAIRBANKS—University of Alaska chancellors and members of Academic Office council gave a progress report to more than 15 legislators and nine regents Wednesday.

Each chancellor had set up a committee to review the costs and benefits in the areas of administrative, rural campuses, distance education and educational equipment.

Fairbanks Chancellor Joan Wadlow is working on ways to cut administrative costs systemwide. She and her committee members are developing a list of all administrative functions. When complete, she and committee members plan to look at the pros and cons of restructuring, eliminating, partnering or contracting out certain aspects of administrative services.

The Alaska geography will have to be a determining factor with any changes made, Wadlow told legislators.

"We want to make sure our actions maintain good service," she said. "But we have to ask ourselves, 'If we do propose a different function, will it work in Alaska?'"

Doing this, she said, would allow the university president to get away from the university's daily operations and take the time to develop public and governmental support.

UAS Chancellor Marshall Lind is focused on reviewing alternative delivery methods, examining the resources used for these methods and determining if the method is getting enough or too much money.

"This is a lot of information," Lind told the board. "We hope to come up with some

ideas we can use five or 10 years from now so we're not involved in another restructuring method, which can be very destructive to the university." (use as drop quote)

Lind said his group is looking at what the state's rural campuses do for students and if they have the proper resources to

Gorsuch must develop a plan on how to distribute UA's resources, mainly state-appropriated money, within the three main campuses.

UAF Provost John Keating is leading the effort to plan improvements in UA's distance education delivery and the technology used for this.

"Anything we do in distance delivery can't be done in a random way," Keating said. "We must look at consumer demand."

Keating said his committee is looking into long-term cost savings for distance delivery through interactive television, guided CD-ROM courses and satellite-transmitted programs.

Legislators were also briefed on several UAF research projects and the money researchers bring into the university through grants.

Several legislators told regents they were surprised to find researchers bringing in millions of dollars to the university through state, federal and private grants that they work to obtain.

"Before today, I always thought university research was a fat cow," said Sen. Jerry Mackie (D-Craig). "I have found this meeting very educational."

This is the second meeting with legislators where regents have tried to educate government officials on university needs.

Sen. Jim Duncan (D-Juneau) said these meetings helped legislators learn how the university benefits the state and hopes it will generate support from the capital.

"I personally believe the legislature has not adequately supported the university of the past couple of years," Duncan said. "We can't continue to have a strong university system and ask them to run on less and less."

"We can't continue to have a strong university system and ask them to run on less and less."

-Sen. Jim Duncan

perform those services.

Sen. Georgianna Lincoln (D-Rampart) told regents she fears rural campus needs are forgotten during budget crunching.

"These areas are sometimes more costly," she said. "We, the legislature, know university funding will either remain flat or will decrease (Because of this), I'm concerned with what's happening in rural Alaska."

For example, she told members that the cooperative extension in Delta Junction closed recently, leaving people in the area without an opportunity to expand their education and remain in their homes.

UAA Chancellor Lee Gorsuch is looking at the best services to students and employees.

He said his committee doesn't have a tentative model for resource allocation, but told regents and legislators his committee wanted to focus on a broad model rather than more specific suggestions.

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Learning Center helps students succeed in their educational pursuits

by Eileen Wagner
Whalesong Reporter

Learning Center Coordinator Roya Ansari feels that people have a negative image of the center as a place for remedial work, but all it takes is five minutes observing the center in action to correct that impression. Math tutor John Carter adds that the students who use the Learning Center "are successful students. In a way we're serving the wrong population."

There are often 25-30 students working there at a time, some at individual study carrels, others working together at tables. It feels like a classroom should feel. There is a comfortable buzz of activity. It is obvious everyone has come to work.

The Learning Center offers free academic support services to UAS students. It averages 4,000 student visits per semester. About 80 percent of the demand for tutoring is in math.

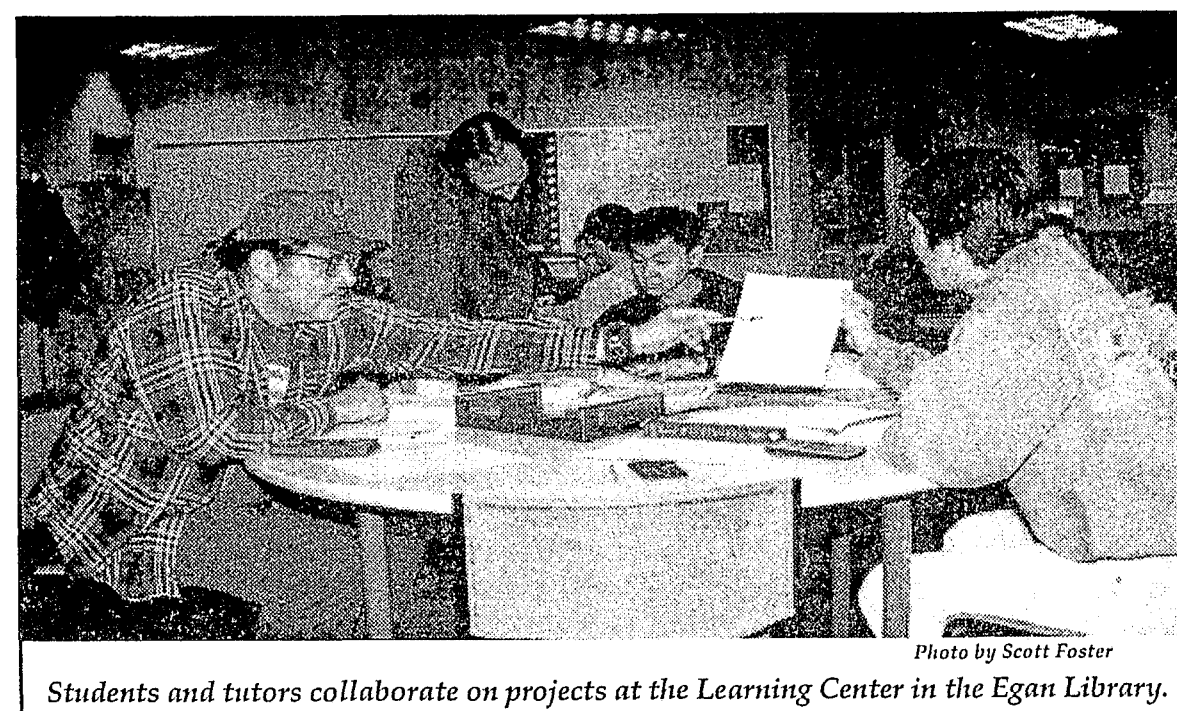
Ansari says that in math "there's an immediacy to what students need" because of having homework for every class, rather than long-term assignments. She thinks the Learning Center may also be promoted more by the UAS math faculty.

Math help is available on a drop-in basis, but students need an appointment for help in English or other subjects.

The center also has textbooks, video and audio tapes for check-out, and copies of previous exams that students can look over.

Carter has been a math tutor for the past several semesters. "Our biggest clientele is the over-25 group," Carter said. "They haven't looked at a math book for 10 or 20 years. I just remind people of what they already know and help them build their confidence. The students who come in here get good grades. They come in early and often."

At the beginning of each semester, the center offers a study skills workshop that covers

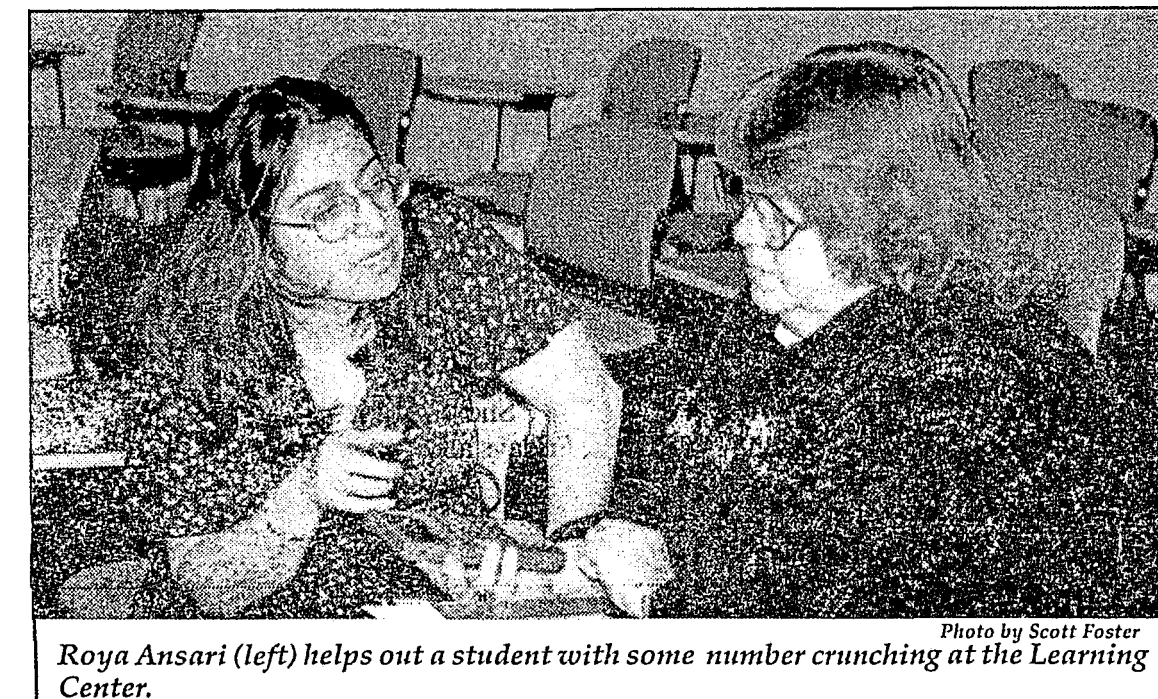


Students and tutors collaborate on projects at the Learning Center in the Egan Library. Photo by Scott Foster

time management, writing essays, and testing. Throughout the semester, math workshops are held every day. (See schedule below.)

The adjoining Testing Center allows students to take exams, primarily in math and psychology, outside the regular class period.

Learning Center Coordinator Ansari's life shows importance of education



Roya Ansari (left) helps out a student with some number crunching at the Learning Center. Photo by Scott Foster

by Eileen Wagner
Whalesong Reporter

"Education is worshipped in Iran," said Roya Ansari, Coordinator of the Learning Center, emphasizing each word. One has no doubt, when talking to Ansari, that education has been the driving force in her life.

Ansari left Iran at the age of 15 because of religious persecution - she is a member of the Baha'i faith, and when the Ayatollah Khomeini took over in 1979, Baha'is began to be severely persecuted. If she had stayed in Iran, she would have been barred from further education, a job, even a passport; she would have lived with verbal abuse and other forms of harassment. Smuggled across the border to Pakistan with her brother and sister, she lived the life of a refugee for 18 months until she was cleared to travel to the United States.

One look at Juneau-Douglas High School was enough to convince Ansari that she didn't belong there, so at the age of 17, she began to take courses at UAS. She says the Learning Center tutors were a great help to her as a student, and views her current job as a chance to give back.

"I enjoy seeing people overcoming problems, and understanding what has been difficult," she said. She has been a tutor at the Center since 1989 and Coordinator since August of 1995.

Ansari hopes to attend medical school someday, and now her husband and their three-year-old child have become part of the plan. "I will do it when everything falls into place. I will know when the time is right."

Ansari said that two things surprised her about the United States: "First, there is so much available and people take it all for granted, and second, it seems that education comes last in everyone's mind. People come to pass courses, they don't come to learn."

Ansari's words confront us with a view of ourselves that is not always pleasant. However, her very presence reminds us of our country's original promise - the hope we represent to those "yearning to breathe free."

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Don't be "afraid" of Perseverance Theatre's latest play

By Heather Montez
Whalesong Reporter

Chalk another one up for Perseverance Theatre and the directing abilities of Molly Smith.

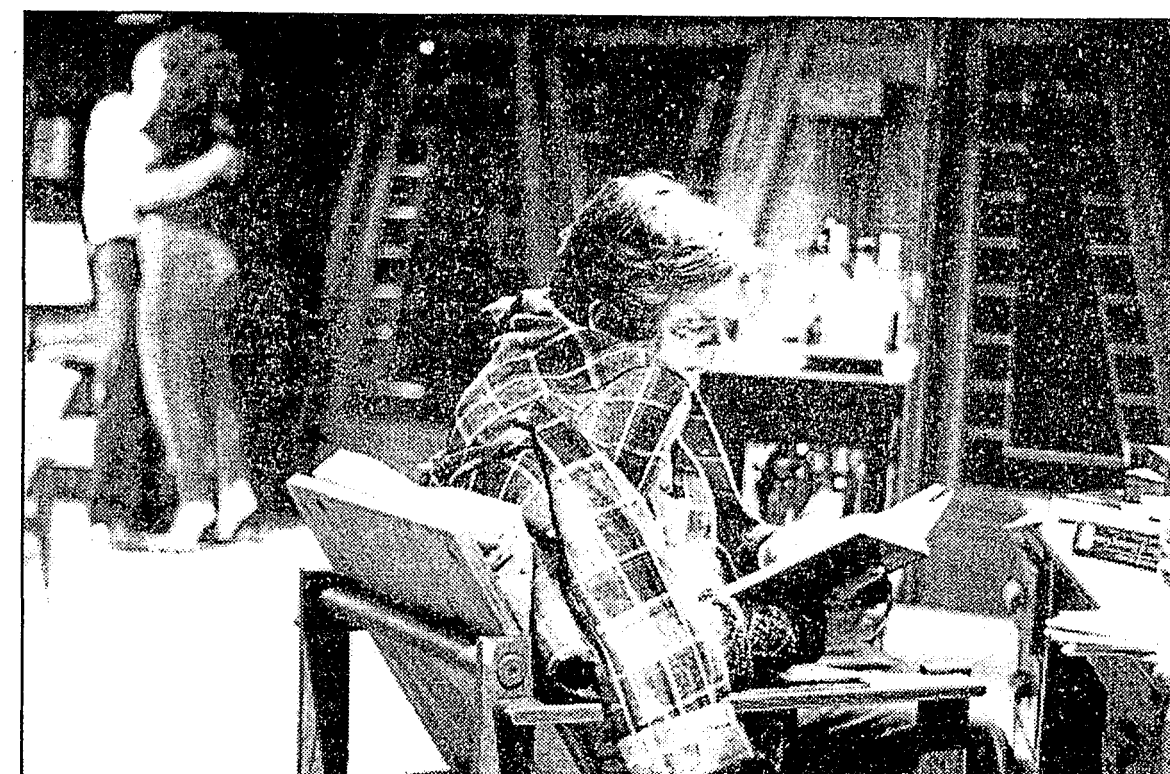
"Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" a play written by Edward Albee, is a serious drama with a dark comedic side. Although the material is of a serious nature, it frequently provokes bursts of laughter from the audience which helps break the building tension between the characters. This is fun drama.

The play opens with middle-aged college couple, George and Martha, alone after returning from a college party, hosted by Martha's father, the college President. Things start rolling as light insults intermixed with tender moments are traded back and forth between them.

They are both obviously intoxicated and it seems the best thing would be to retire for the evening, but much to George's dismay, Martha announces that she has invited over some guests, the new college professor and his wife, Nick and Honey. This starts a whole new barrage of comments and when the young couple arrive they walk into the middle of a battlefield.

First Martha and then George take charge of what they call "the games" each becoming the center of attention as they play on each other's weak spots. Nick and Honey are embarrassed by the language and innuendoes and though it is apparent they don't want to have any part of these conversations between George and Martha, they are eventually pulled into the battle.

Alcohol is poured and poured again as tension increases with George and Martha try-



George (Patrick Moore) is apparently oblivious as his wife Martha (Joyce Parry Moore) entertains a guest in Perseverance Theatre's production of "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" Photo by Matt Miller

ing to one up the other. Nick and Honey become more involved as things from their past are brought to light, Martha begins flirting with Nick, and George who seems to be getting the brunt of most of the insults, decides to "change the game," turning the evening into an all out war.

The evening ends as illusions are "peeled away" and realizations about both of the couples come to light. The young couple leaves and George and Martha are left alone to come to terms with their own illusions.

The stage, thanks to the design of Art Rotch, is set with angular pieces forming George and Martha's living room. The set was inspired by the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright and paintings by period artists. Traditional period lamps, furniture, professor-like paraphernalia, complete with a hand-painted wood floor, make for a convincing setting.

Joyce Parry-Moore and Patrick Moore, real husband and wife offstage, are superb as the dysfunctional couple George and Martha. The intense material changes radically at numerous times in the play and both Joyce and Patrick are able to pull it off with great proficiency.

Student technology fee pays for new computers

by Crystal Huskey
Whalesong Reporter

The technology fee charged to UAS students this fall has made the purchase of new equipment possible and is designed to help the campus keep up with the ever-changing pace of technological development. Students were charged \$5 per credit hour, to a maximum of \$60.

The fee was adopted by the Board of Regents last April. The basis for this fee came from the Teaching, Learning and Technology Roundtable (TLTR). This 18-member group is comprised of students, faculty and staff. UAS student representatives currently on the TLTR are Garri Constantine, Jason Ormsby and UASJC Student President Rosie Gilbert.

UAS Academic Advisor and faculty member Elizabeth Schelle, who is also a co-chair of the TLTR, encourages any interested students to attend the committee's meetings. The main objective of the TLTR is to find ways that technology can be applied to teaching and learning. The fee is a way to help make these goals possible.

The fee has restrictions on what it can be used for and whatever the money buys must benefit the entire student body. Student input through the TLTR must be taken into account also. Purchases must first be proposed to and approved by the TLTR.

According to Michael Ciri, manager of computer services, \$65,000 has been collected so far from the fee. Approximately



Students take advantage of some of the new Pentium computers purchased by education technology fees and recently installed at the Computer Lab. Photo by Matt Miller

\$59,000 of this total has been spent on the computer center, library, and media services. The computer center used the money to acquire 15 new Pentium machines and eight Macintosh computers.

Problems in the Lab

Although the computer center has obtained new equipment, there have been several problems in the lab. Many students have complained about the problems with getting a computer. UAS student James Barrett said, "It's surprising to think that I still have to wait up to two hours for a computer."

The computer center is trying to solve the current lab difficulties. According to Ciri, "We had difficulties getting things stabilized and this has caused students many hardships." Ciri encourages students to feel free to talk to him if they have any questions or comments.

Media services spent most of their allocated \$5,000 to acquire four video cameras. This new equipment was purchased to help those taking speech, performance and video classes, as well as the general

Newcomers to Juneau, Darius Jones, who hails from Tenakee Springs, and Lori Ivy from Ohio, give a distinctive feeling to the young superficial couple, Nick and Honey, they portray.

The title of the play, "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" and the joke sung throughout the play to the tune of "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" puzzled me and I thought to better understand the play clarification was needed as to why Albee used such an obscure title. Scholars have surmised about Albee's intentions for his title and some have guessed that the point to the joke is the obscurity of the writer Virginia Woolf, in all but academic circumstances, and to the difficulty of her work.

So, to say "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" as a joke is a particularly clever and rather condescending academic joke and one that obviously George and Martha would understand. Virginia Woolf was a famous English writer who gave up on life and committed suicide by drowning. Anyone who cannot face the truth about what life offers has only one other choice. Could this be why Martha at the end of the play is afraid of Virginia Woolf?

In an interview on Bravo, the Arts & Entertainment channel, Edward Albee said he saw the words, which became the title for his play, written on the bathroom stall at some college. Perhaps Albee intended for each of us to make our own discoveries about the play and about ourselves.

This play is definitely recommended for mature audiences. It contains strong language and sexual issues.

Showtimes are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 6 p.m. The final show on Sunday, Oct. 19 will be a matinee starting at 2 p.m.

UAS Computer Center Lab Hours

Monday - Thursday

8am - 9pm

Friday 8am - 5pm

Saturday 1pm - 5pm

Sunday 1pm - 8pm

The Learning Center Ground Floor, Egan Library Math Workshops Fall 1997

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Math 054 | Thursday, 10:00- 10:50 |
| Math 055 | Monday 3:00- 3:50 Tuesday 10:00 - 10:50 |
| Math 105 and Calculator | Wednesday 11:00 - 11:50 Thursday 1:00 - 1:50 Thursday 4:00 - 4:50 |
| Math 107 and Calculator | Wednesday 1:00 - 1:50 Thursday 3:00 - 3:50 |
| Math 108 and Maple | Tuesday 12:00 - 12:50 |
| Math 200 and Maple | Wednesday 4:00 - 4:50 |
| Math 202 and Maple | Monday 10:00 - 10:50 |

Questions...? Call 465-6348

Students form a diverse group at UAS

By Eileen Wagner
Whalesong Reporter

For a small campus, UAS boasts a very diverse population. Historically, the average student age has been 35, because of the large number of part-time students who are adults in the community. Recently, new dorms and new degree programs have attracted more students of traditional college age. And a growing number of high-school age students are now attending UAS. Following are profiles of three diverse students.

Adam Moore

Adam Moore claims the distinction of being the youngest student at UAS. The 16-year-old from Sitka is working toward his A.A. degree as a Computer Support Specialist, and feels he will probably decide to go on for a B.A. eventually. He admits he was nervous about attending college so young, but after a month at UAS, says he feels right at home.

Moore decided that public school was not for him in 7th grade. "I got fed up with people fighting, with having to defend myself," he said. He attended an alternative school for a year, where he worked as a student teacher of younger students. For the past three years, he has homeschooled himself.

He has also run a small business, helping people set up their Internet connections and creating websites, and worked on technical matters for the Sitka City and Borough computer system.

In an English paper, Moore reflects on the beginning of his new life in Juneau and at UAS. "The ferry ride itself seemed symbolic, maybe like this college was a gateway to my new, fascinating, and scary world, and that the ferry was my vessel to get there. I felt like I was taking one giant leap from childhood into my future," he said, "Once we arrived I felt like a completely different person."

Shannon Seifert

All the way from Pasadena for the new Environmental Science degree? Well, that's not quite the way it worked out for one university student. Shannon Seifert, 20, was already a student at UAS, having fled Humboldt State University for "the smallest school I could find." When the new Environmental Science degree program was approved last May, she looked at the list of required courses

and thought "these are all classes I want to take!"

She is now one of only five Environmental Science majors in what is sure to become an increasingly popular major. "I feel a little bit like a lab rat. But I like to experiment--we're helping fine-tune the classes for future students," she said.

Seifert has already managed to accomplish a lot with creative time management. She biked across the U.S. during her senior year of high school: "We took the two-month route and got back just in time for graduation."

She's a licensed EMT and a volunteer firefighter with the Auke Bay Fire Department. She has also completed groundschool and hopes to get her private pilot's license next summer.

She said groundschool appealed to her, as did EMT training, for two reasons: "A. I love it. B. It might come in handy."

Alberta Hanlon

You might have heard Alberta Hanlon on KINY during the Goldbelt Business Report, or you might have bought a ticket from her for the Auke Nu ferry, which travels from Auke Bay to Gustavus, Tracy

Arms and on whale watching trips. Last spring, Hanlon completed an eight-week visitor industry course offered by Goldbelt Inc., an urban Native corporation headquartered in Juneau, and was given special recognition for her work.

"I just about popped right out of my skin," said Hanlon, "I never graduated before!"

It's been about 30 years since Hanlon, 47, left high school as a sophomore. Although she got her GED in 1969, she has not spent any time in a classroom since then.

She is currently enrolled at UAS, working toward a Certificate in the Visitor Industry Program. Her longer-range goal is an Associate Degree in Hotel Management, which would require a second year.

"I'm getting out of my comfort zone. But I'm determined. I told myself I'm going to do it," she said. The first two weeks of school were chaotic for her. She kept realizing she'd left things at home that she needed at school, kept making mistakes about her schedule.

Now things seem to be under control, except that she needs a math tutor.

She added, "I feel like I'm independent. I'm no longer afraid of the unknown. I know where I'm going. The only thing that frightens me is my homework!"

"The only thing that frightens me is my homework!"

- Alberta Hanlon

Getting to know your student government representatives

By Crystal Huskey
Whalesong Reporter

How well do you know who is serving on the UASJC Student Senate? The following column was created to help you learn more about your Student Senate representatives.

Wonder Russell

UAS freshman Wonder Russell decided to get involved in Student Government for two main reasons. First of all, she wanted to be involved in making decisions to help students. Second, Wonder doesn't want to just float through college, but instead wants to be part of the process.

This is Wonder's first semester as a Student Senator. She was voted in at the elections held on Sept. 17 and 18. According to Wonder, "So far it has been a lot of work, but it's definitely worth it." Wonder currently serves as the chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee and she is also the co-club liaison. Wonder is also involved in the Spanish Club, Global Connections, and the new radio station club.

Wonder is considering majoring in either Business, English, or Spanish. When she is not attending school she enjoys horse-

back riding and hiking. She can also be heard occasionally on Taku 105 giving the news report.

Melissa Nell

Melissa Nell was elected as a Student Senator last spring. She has been serving on the Senate since July 1. After being a student for four years at UAS, Melissa has had many opportunities to see student government grow and fall apart several times. She decided that instead of sitting around complaining about it, she would join and take an active role in it.

Melissa currently serves on the Public Relations and Academic Affairs Committees. She is also the President of Global Connections, and helps out whenever possible with the Ultimate Frisbee Club. Melissa is originally from Minneapolis, Minnesota. She moved to Juneau in 1994, and has no plans of leaving. She hopes to graduate in December 1998 with a bachelor's degree in secondary education. Melissa then plans to return to school to earn a second degree in elementary education and certification in special education.

Melissa's free time is spent playing frisbee, snowboarding, and crocheting.

UAS Enrollment Rises for Fall '97

Enrollment is up 42 percent at UAS this fall. As of Sept. 25, 1,970 students had enrolled. Six hundred and ninety-eight are full-time students and 1,272 are part-time. The number will grow as the semester goes on, according to Director of Student Services Bruce Gifford, because of distance delivery classes and other programs that have not yet begun. "We'll probably end up with 2,200-2,300 students this semester," Gifford said.

Because UAS is using a new computer system this fall, numbers are not yet available on the demographics of the student population, for example, percentage of in-state vs. out-of-state students, and age of students, etc.

On-campus housing is not filled to capacity. About 196 students live on campus and 25 openings are still available.

Gifford said that a few years ago, UAS administrators set a goal for the campus of 800-1,000 full-time students.

"We decided we were going to expand, to recruit more full-time students. We knew we wanted to offer different types of degrees and programs, so we decided to use the advantages we have in Juneau - the forests, mountains, fresh water and salt water - what other place has all of that? Literally everything is here."

Gifford believes the new Marine Biology and Environmental Science degree programs are attracting more out-of-state students as well as locals.

He also said many classes were moved from the evening to daytime to benefit the full-time students.

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Miscellaneous

UAS Students ... Do you have something to advertise? Take advantage of our FREE classifieds. Non-Student rates are \$10 for up to 25 words, and \$5 each subsequent issue same ad is run. Drop your ad off by the office downstairs in the Maurant Building.



Tingstad & Rumbel

Saturday, October 18 • 8 p.m. • Chapel by the Lake

\$10 Student • \$15 General • \$17 door. Tickets at Hearthsides Books and at the UAS Bookstore.